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SPACE IS THE PLACE ... FOR FIGHTING! {page 15}

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Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Questions cloud pot debate as it rolls on

Students from Suffolk, Emerson testify before committee examining marijuana legalization ballot question ◗ Lawmakers express concern at 'floodgate' effect {page 02}

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Politics. Romney

▶ Former Gov. Mitt Romney returned to Massachusetts to vote with his wife Ann at the Beech Street Senior Center yesterday in Belmont.

Mitt Romney had a less-than-super Super Tuesday yesterday, as he failed to win some important states, with results from the key battleground state of Ohio being too close to call as of press time. Regardless of the eventual winner, the inevitability of Romney's candidacy was dealt a serious blow as the former Massachusetts governor failed to prove that he could carry conservative voters. {pages 08-09}

News

Rage against Limbaugh goes viral

Popular talk show host has lost at least 10 sponsors after calling congressional witness a slut and prostitute {page 10}

Drescher dishes 'Happily'

Former 'Nanny' star says art imitates life, but she didn't sleep with her gay ex {page 14}

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Pot details weeded out

Pot activists push weed reform bill 2012 ballot will have medicinal marijuana question
Proposed bill would bring money to state through weed cultivation, sales and taxes

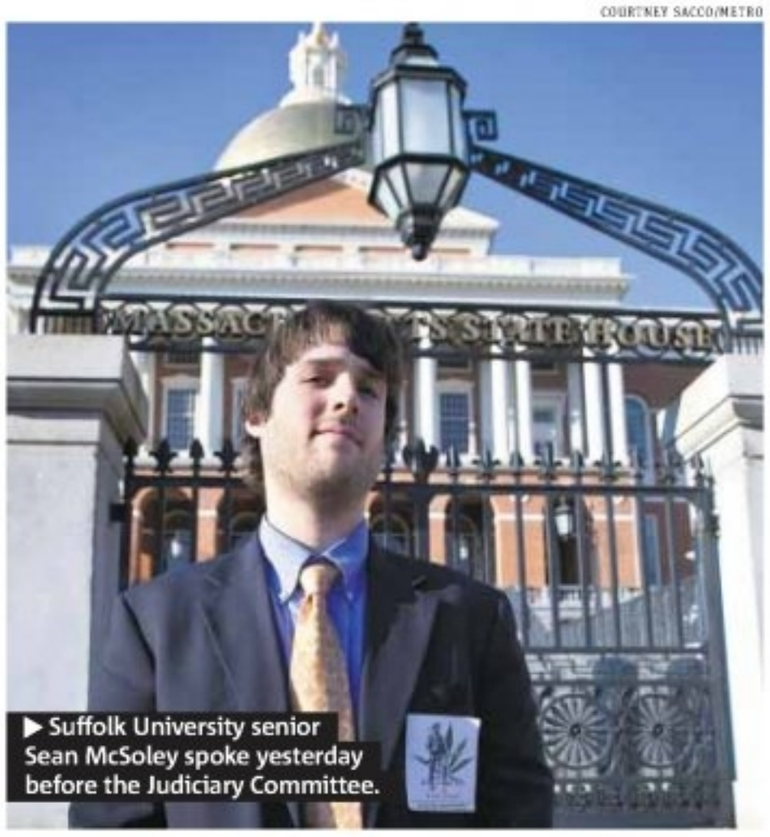
Suffolk University senior Sean McSoley believes an unregulated weed market contributes to violence and by legalizing and taxing pot, it would take cash out of criminals' hands while promoting safer city streets.

"The prohibition of marijuana is the reason for the crime surrounding marijuana," said McSoley before the Judiciary Committee on Beacon Hill yesterday.

McSoley spoke in support of a bill that would create a Cannabis Regulation and Taxation Act aimed at eliminating drug-related crime and raising new revenue for Massachusetts.

During his testimony, McSoley recounted his run-in with two men who repeatedly stabbed him and "left him for dead" when he refused to give them his bag of weed while on the Boston Common two years ago.

COURTNEY SACCO/METRO



▶ Suffolk University senior Sean McSoley spoke yesterday before the Judiciary Committee.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SHOULD MARIJUANA BE LEGALIZED IN MASS.?

"This would have never happened if it were a pack of cigarettes or a six pack of beer," he said. "By legalizing this plant, these incentives to rob and kill would no longer exist."

McSoley's speech was met by applause from a handful of Emerson College and Suffolk University student supporters.

"I think [legalization] is moving in the right direction," said Armando Vazquez, 19, a member of Emerson's "Students for Sensible Drug Policy" group.

"Even though it's quite slow, the discussion is not going to rest anytime soon," he said.

Legislators overseeing the House bill voiced concern about more motorists driving while high and "opening a huge flood gate" to legalizing other drugs.

"If it's OK with marijuana, should we legalize cocaine and LSD?," said Rep. Sheila Harrington. "I'm not sure that the justification is people are breaking the law all the time and we should just open it up."

McSoley, president of Suffolk's chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, agreed certain regulations would have to be set in place if the bill were to move forward.

STEVE ANNEAR
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In the news

3.7%

State House Speaker Robert DeLeo proposed an attempt to limit the annual growth in the state's health care cost at just under 4 percent. DeLeo announced the proposal during a Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce speech yesterday. The 3.7 percent cap is a fraction of the current growth rate of health costs. SHNS

Today's local tweet

"Never bring a regular guitar to a subway street performer battle, you'll always lose to the other guy + his electric guitar and amp. #mbta"

@SETHORENSKY, OFFERING A SUGGESTION TO THE MUSICIANS WHO DO BATTLE WITH TUNES AT T STOPS

Proposed pot act

- People would have to be 21 to partake in puffing
- Bill would promote new jobs in commercial hemp and cannabis
- It wouldn't conflict with existing laws related to driving while high
- An authority of seven directors would oversee regulations of distribution, cultivation
- Board would issue cultivation, retail trade and other licenses as necessary
- An excise tax would be collected by the state
- The bill's author suggests the Legislature will not act, but voters might in the future
- Come November, voters will decide on medicinal use

Quoted

"If it's regulated, you know what you are buying ... and this would also allow the state to benefit from the sale by taxing [marijuana]."
REP. ELLEN STORY, BILL SPONSOR

Not the first push for pot

Last June, members of the Joint Committee on Public Health heard testimony in favor of a bill that would allow nonprofit dispensaries to grow plants and prescribe medicinal pot to registered patients with varying disabilities and diseases under the watch of the state Department of Public Health.

That same month, Rep. Barney Frank, D-MA, and Republican presidential hopeful Ron Paul, teamed up to co-sponsor a bipartisan bill to let states nationwide legalize, regulate and tax weed the way they do with alcohol.

It was the first such bill introduced in Congress.

Man pleads not guilty to fatal JP stabbing

JAMAICA PLAIN. A Roslindale man pleaded not guilty yesterday to fatally stabbing a teen outside a Jamaica Plain convenience store last year.

Hector Soto, 20, was charged with murder during his arraignment in West Roxbury District Court.

Soto is accused of killing 19-year-old Kenneth Soto in October. Authorities believe the two men knew each other, but were not relatives.

Authorities said the two men arrived with separate groups to the 7-Eleven on Centre Street. It was there that a fight ensued and resulted in Kenneth Soto being stabbed.

$0 A judge approved a prosecutor's request to hold Hector Soto without bail for allegedly killing Kenneth Soto.

Hector Soto allegedly fled with friends.

He was arrested this week after police reviewed surveillance images, forensic evidence and witness statements. METRO

Charges for hockey dad

WINTHROP. A 42-year-old Winthrop man was charged yesterday for allegedly aiming a laser pointer at an opposing goalie during a high school girls hockey game.

Authorities charged Joseph Cordes with disturbing the peace after a "comprehensive review" of the facts and evidence.

He is the father of a Winthrop girls hockey player, according to WBZ. METRO

First lady to visit Boston for campaign fundraisers

BOSTON. The White House confirmed earlier reports that first lady Michelle Obama will visit Boston on Friday for fundraisers.

Obama will first attend an event in New Hampshire as part of her "Let's Move!" initiative that promotes healthy eating and exercise. She will then head to Boston later that day, according to Boston.com.

She will then attend two events at the Institute for Contemporary Art. Tickets for the event are going for thousands of dollars each.

$5K Tickets for a reception at the ICA with the first lady cost $500 and up. A dinner later on costs $5,000 a person.

The events will benefit the Obama Victory Fund, a joint committee serving President Barack Obama's re-election fund, Obama for America and the Democratic National Committee.

The first lady has been making stops across the country recently for campaign appearances. BOSTON.COM

Bus rider has iPod swiped from pocket

Man felt someone reach in his pocket and take iPod while on a T bus Cops bust another alleged fare evader

A Mattapan teen who was trying to relax on his T bus ride home Monday night by shutting his eyes and listening to music turned into a victim of an attempted iPod theft.

"He stated his eyes were closed but he was not asleep, and he felt someone reach into his front left jacket pocket and snatch his iPod," according to a police report.

The teen then saw the man flee from the bus as it traveled through Mattapan. The teen chased the suspect and both were stopped by Boston police who saw them running.

When police were questioning him, the suspect said he knew the victim and he was only kidding.

The teen said he did not know the alleged thief.

Police then arrested Luckner Pierre, 21, of Jamaica Plain, and charged him with larceny.

When officers searched him, they allegedly found marijuana on him and gave him a citation.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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More T trouble

Transit police also busted a 25-year-old Haverhill woman Monday night for allegedly fare evading.

The officers were in plain clothes looking for fare evaders at Back Bay station when they saw a man "piggy back" on a paying customer. The man then returned to the fare gate to open it for the woman, Rachel Greenwood, and she avoided the fare.

Police stopped the duo and it was discovered that Greenwood had warrants for crimes including larceny over $250 and check forgery.

METRO/MN

Ducks. Go Bragh

▶ Some dressed up ducks in the Public Garden.

COURTNEY SACCO/METRO

Make way for Irish ducklings

While the annual St. Patrick's Day parade in South Boston is still more than a week away, some of Boston's most famous residents are already in the spirit. Someone recently dressed up the "Make Way for Ducklings" statues. But come March 18 in Southie it'll be make way for drunkies. METRO

FDA warns caffeine inhalant maker

CAMBRIDGE. The Food and Drug Administration issued a warning letter this week to the makers of AeroShot, whose company officials are based in Cambridge.

In a letter sent to Breathable Foods, Inc., CEO Thomas Hadfield, the FDA said it had safety concerns and that the product was misbranded on the company's website.

The letter warned of false or misleading statements in the labeling of the product, and told the company that the agency is concerned about the use of AeroShot by children and in combination with alcohol, according to a statement.

The company's website said the product delivers a blend of caffeine and B vitamins through "puffs."

In a statement, the company said it will work with the FDA and that the product is not marketed toward anyone under 18 or to be used with alcohol. METRO

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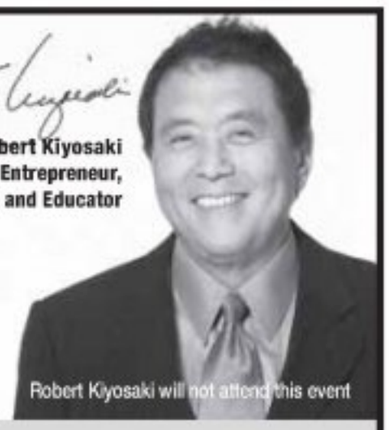

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Investor, Entrepreneur, and Educator

Robert Kiyosaki will not attend this event

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Expert: Ohio shootings may have impacted Attleboro teens

In the wake of the Ohio school shootings, two Attleboro men were arraigned yesterday for allegedly posting threats on Facebook to attack Attleboro High School.

According to a leading psychologist on school shootings, when troubled teens hear about other school shootings it may push them to turn to violence.

"There is no doubt that when students are on the edge of using violence as a solution and they see it being used, they may feel prodded within to use it themselves," said Dr. William Pollack, an associate clinical professor in the department of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. "I think it gives them a sense they are not completely crazy in doing it."

Pollack, who was commissioned by the U.S. government to do a study on school shootings after the Columbine attacks, said threats of violence may also become more prevalent after a high-profile shooting. It's a way to get attention when people are already on edge, he said.

"They'll finally get their grievances heard," said Pollack.

In most cases, the students who threaten publicly are looking for help and have not reached a point of violence, said Pollack.

"Many kids who pose a danger never threaten to do anything, and many people who threaten don't actually pose a danger," said Pollack. "But all threats should be taken seriously."

CHRISTINA WALLACE
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The suspects

Authorities arrested the men Monday after they discovered the threats on Facebook.

- **Natick Sands, 18, and Ryan Ringuette, 20,** both of Attleboro, pleaded not guilty in Attleboro District Court yesterday on charges that they used Facebook to discuss carrying out a Columbinelike attack on Attleboro High School.
- **Both were charged with a bomb/hijack threat,** according to the Bristol County district attorney's office, and they were each held on $7,500 cash bail.
- **They are due back in court March 19.**

Art. Meditation

▶ Shastri Diana Evans of Shambhala Meditation Center leads a meditation facing a Buddha sculpture by Gonkar Gyatso.

COURTNEY SACCO/METRO

About two dozen people celebrated the opening of a new exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts by meditating there. The new exhibit, "Seeking Shambhala," features recently conserved 17th century Tibetan paintings of Shambhala kings related to the land of Shambhala or Shangri-la. METRO

News in brief

Man caught for unhappy crime

BOSTON. Transit police yesterday arrested the man they sought for damaging a McDonald's cash register at South Station last week.

Timothy Chace, 28, of Dorcehster, pleaded not guilty to causing the damage, estimated at $3,000.

Chace was allegedly caught on surveillance cameras shoving the restaurant's cash register and other items to the ground before walking away just after midnight March 1. METRO

Cops nab three for computers theft

DORCHESTER. Three Dorchester teens were arrested Monday for stealing about a dozen computers from a store.

The teens held up the store at gunpoint Monday morning and took between 10 and 15 laptops from display cases in the Dorchester Avenue shop. They also took an employee's wallet.

The teens fled, but officers were able to find them with the help of witnesses. METRO

Gun-check bill gathers support

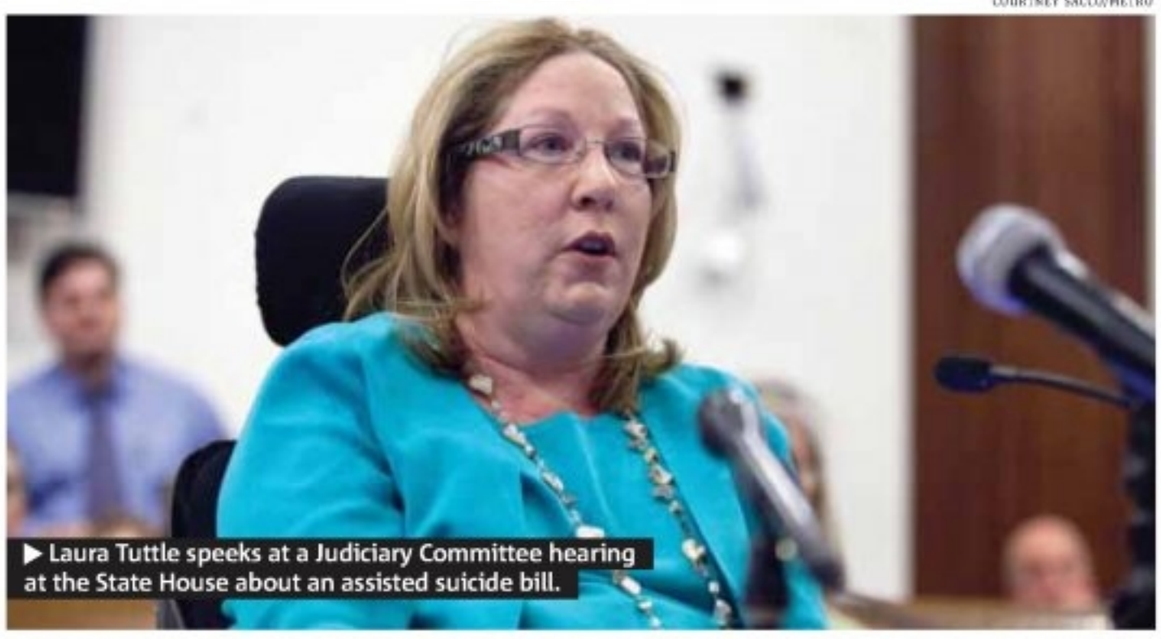
MASSACHUSETTS. City and state leaders voiced support yesterday for a bill that would make information on mental health patients available for gun background checks.

The bill would require the state to submit the names of those "who have been confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness within 20 years of the effective date."

SHNS

Assisted suicide bill met with fierce opposition

COURTNEY SACCO/METRO



▶ Laura Tuttle speeks at a Judiciary Committee hearing at the State House about an assisted suicide bill.

Laura Tuttle isn't afraid of dying thanks to the care she receives from hospice professionals that devote their time to easing her pain.

She is confined to a powered wheelchair and living with a terminal illness that she said could kill her within two years. Tuttle was first diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease in 2009.

But despite having the disease, she does not support a proposal to legalize physician-assisted suicide in the Bay State.

"Patients are typically concerned about being a financial and care-giving burden on family," said Tuttle. "I do not believe that physician-assisted suicide is the answer when we have access to quality hospice care."

Tuttle's disposition was echoed by a multitude of opponents rallying against legalizing assisted suicide measures during a hearing on a bill before the Judiciary Committee yesterday.

Supporters of "Death with Dignity" said the proposed act would give terminally ill patients a choice to end their suffering by taking a self-administered pill under strict safeguards.

"We can't sit in judgment of those in such personal pain, everyone should be able to make their own choice," said Rep. Louis Kafka, who sponsored the legislation.

86,000

After getting thousands of signatures to support "Death with Dignity" the legislature has until May to vote on the proposed bill before it appears on the 2012 ballot.

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Brown to pay up for ads

MASSACHUSETTS. Sen. Scott Brown will have to pay up because an outside group violated a pledge made by the Republican senator. Brown's campaign said yesterday that a third-party group recently ran an online ad in support of the freshman senator, according to WBZ.

Those ads violated an agreement Brown and his Democratic contender Elizabeth Warren signed.

The duo signed the pledge in January, and it was meant to block outside advertising in their race.

The pledge was made as spending grew by new, unrestrained political action committees called super PACs.

A violation of the pledge means a campaign must pay 50 percent of the cost of any TV or Web advertisement by the outside group to the charity of the opposing candidate's choice.

Brown's campaign said they contacted the group CAPE PAC after it began running the ads supporting Brown, according to WBZ.

METRO

Injured man to testify

BOSTON. Marcus Hurd, the only survivor of one of Boston's most horrific crimes in recent years, is expected to testify today in the trial of two men accused in a Mattapan massacre.

Hurd, 33, was shot in the head, but survived the September 2010 robbery and shooting by a group of men.

Two men, Dwayne Moore, 34, of Mattapan and Edward Washington, 32, of Dorchester, are currently on trial for the shooting and murders.

Four others were killed.

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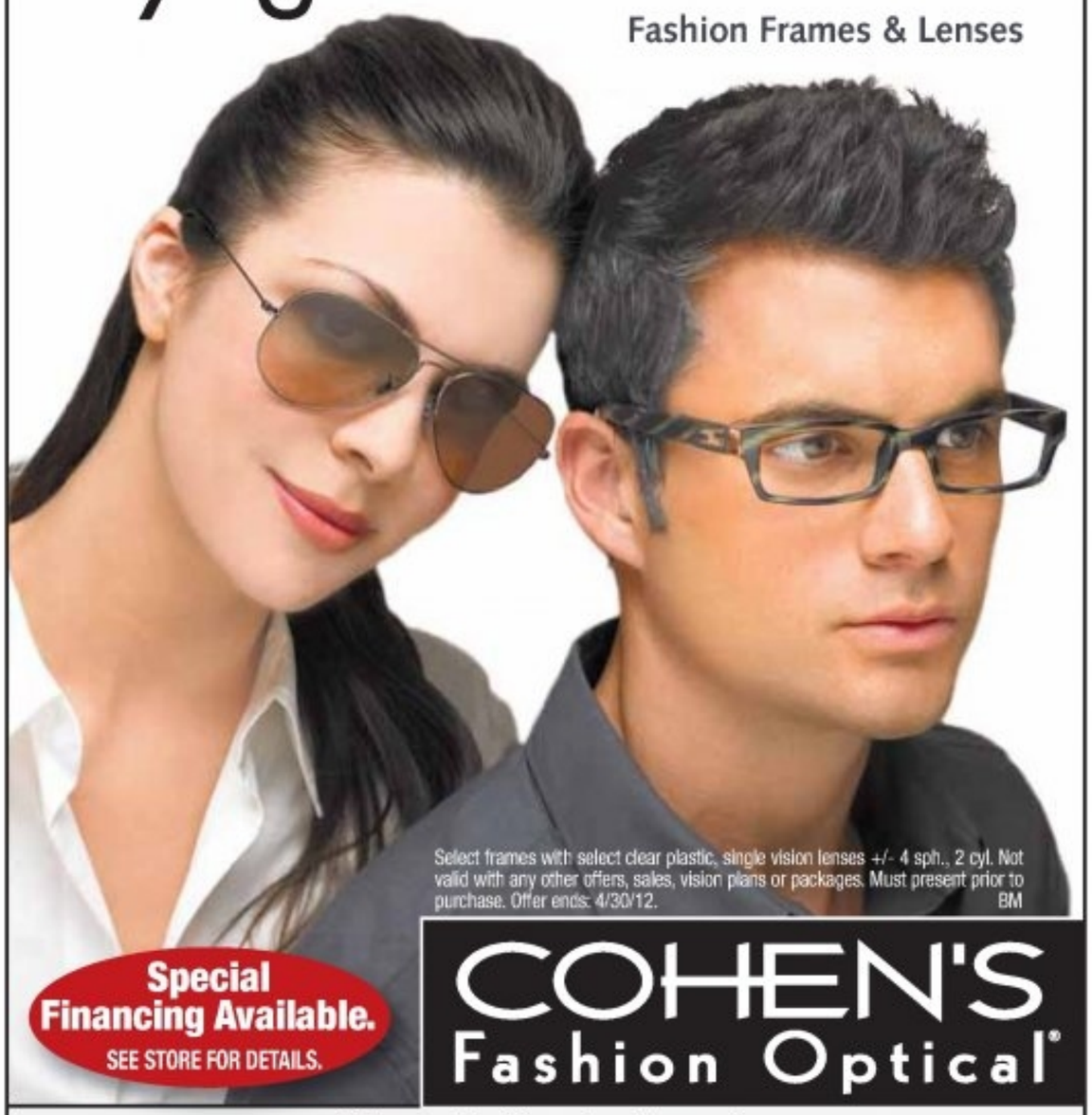

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Anonymous leader 'was an FBI informer'

Six suspected leaders of the international hacking organization known as Anonymous were charged by U.S. authorities of computer crimes, dealing a major blow to the loose-knit group that has wreaked havoc on the websites of government agencies and major corporations.

Among those charged was Hector Xavier Monsegur, known as "Sabu," who took responsibility for attacks on the websites of eBay's PayPal, MasterCard Inc. and Visa Inc. between December 2010 and June 2011, according to federal prosecutors and the FBI. The attacks were in retaliation for the refusal of those companies to process donations to WikiLeaks, the group that leaked confidential diplomatic cables in 2010.

The charges against Monsegur, in a case that was opened last summer, were filed in federal court in New York via a criminal information. Such a document typically means a suspect has been cooperating with the government. **REUTERS**

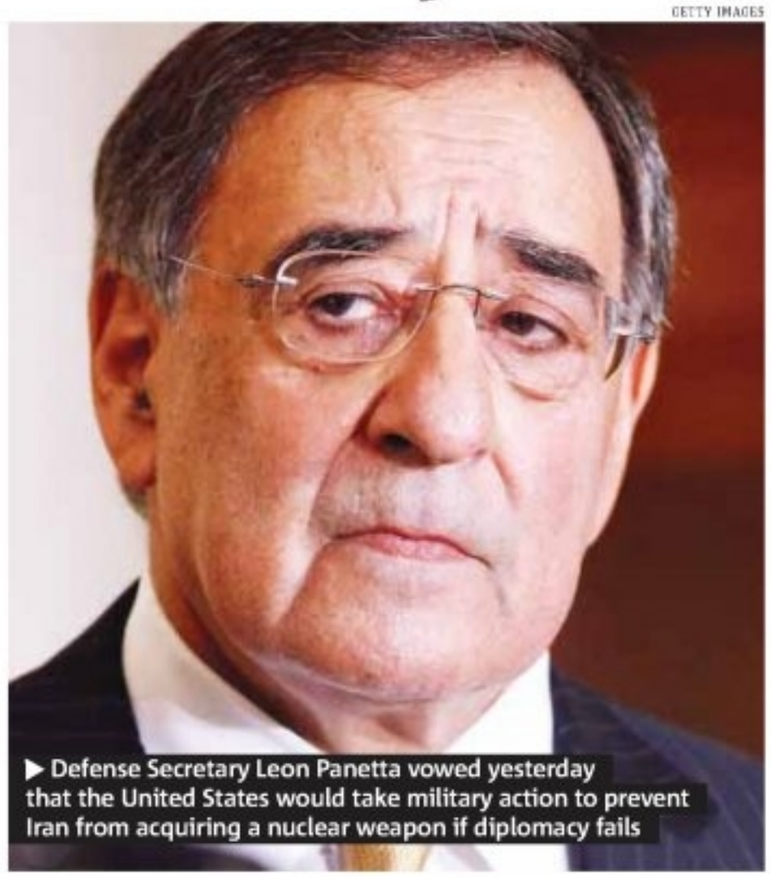
UN gets Syria hospital torture video

GENEVA. The United Nations has footage similar to a video aired by Britain's Channel 4 television station purporting to show Syrian patients being tortured in hospital, U.N. human rights spokesman Rupert Colville said yesterday. "The High Commissioner was sent this footage by Channel 4 yesterday. In fact we have some similar footage," Colville, spokesman for U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, said.

"It may even be the same footage which was sent to the commission of inquiry on Syria," Colville told a news briefing. "The pictures are truly shocking." **REUTERS**

Panetta: US will attack Iran only as last resort

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Defense Secretary Leon Panetta vowed yesterday that the United States would take military action to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon if diplomacy fails

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta vowed yesterday that the United States would take military action to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon if diplomacy fails.

"Military action is the last alternative when all else fails," he told an annual policy conference of the biggest U.S. pro-Israel lobbying group, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. "But make no mistake, when all else fails, we will act."

Just before Panetta spoke, three Republicans seeking their party's nomination to run against President Barack Obama in the Nov. 6 election practically outbid each other in showing their support for the Jewish state before the same audience.

The front-runner in the Republican contest, Mitt Romney, accused Obama of being soft on Iran in a videocast to the AIPAC conference. **REUTERS**

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Women allege rape, retaliation in military

GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Defense Department has increased funding for investigators and judges to get training in sexual assault cases and is putting together a database to track cases.

Eight current and former female members of the U.S. military allege in a lawsuit they were raped, assaulted or sexually harassed while in the military and were retaliated against when they complained.

The suit filed yesterday in U.S. District Court in Washington is the latest to allege widespread sexual violence in the world's most powerful military. It comes less than two months after Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced new steps to curb thousands of sexual assaults a year.

The lawsuit accuses military leaders of having a "high tolerance for sexual predators in their ranks" and failing to take steps to deal with the problem despite avowals to do so.

The eight women include a Marine on active duty and seven veterans of the Marine Corps and Navy. Seven allege a fellow service member raped or tried to sexually assault them, and an eighth said she was harassed while deployed in Iraq.

Defendants include Panetta and former and current Defense and Navy secretaries and Marine Corps commandants.

"No one should have to submit to being raped to be able to serve," Susan Burke, the women's attorney, said on the margins of a news conference.

Cynthia Smith, a Pentagon spokeswoman, said in a statement it would be inappropriate to comment on pending litigation but that sexual assault had no place in the Defense Department. **REUTERS**

"No one should have to submit to being raped to be able to serve."
BURKE

Her story

One of the women, Ariana Klay, alleged she was raped by a senior Marine Corps officer and his civilian friend in August 2010 at her residence near the Marine barracks in Washington.

Harassment and retaliation from her superiors after reporting the rape led her to attempt suicide, the suit said. One of the accused rapists was court-martialed and convicted of adultery and indecent language.

Klay, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and an Iraq veteran, had complained of harassment and abuse before the attack. She had requested a transfer to Afghanistan to escape it but was turned down, the suit said. **REUTERS**

$1M reward for missing FBI agent

WASHINGTON. The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation yesterday offered a rare $1 million reward for information leading to the safe return of its former agent Robert Levinson, who vanished in Iran in 2007 and is believed to be held hostage in the area.

The FBI made the announcement almost five years after Levinson, a former FBI special agent, disappeared from Kish Island in Iran while on a business trip. Iran's government has said previously it has no information about his whereabouts.

"While we believe Bob is alive, we are concerned about his health," said James McJunkin, head of the FBI's Washington field office. "I hope this reward encourages anyone with information — no matter how insignificant they may think it is — to come forward ... it may be the clue we need." **REUTERS**

Wife killed by home cannon

SAN DIEGO. A man's homemade cannon killed his wife when the contraption suddenly went off early yesterday and tore into the couple's home in the California border town of Potrero, authorities said.

The man had been drinking and was "freaking out" when emergency responders arrived at the home, said a dispatcher with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

The woman killed was 33 years old. **REUTERS**

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2/10-12	Bolton Valley	3/9-11	Sugarloaf
2/11	Jay Peak	3/10	Stowe
2/12	Stowe	3/11	Sunday River
2/12	Mount Snow●●	3/11	Mount Snow●●
2/17-20	Montreal	3/17	Sunday River
2/18	Sunday River	3/18	Killington
2/19	Jay Peak	3/21	Mount Snow●
2/22	Mount Snow●	3/23-25	Lake Placid
2/24-26	Sugarloaf	3/24	Jay Peak
2/25	Stowe	3/25	Stowe
2/26	Sunday River	3/31	Stratton

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Romney underperforms, Santorum overperforms, but nomination not sewn up just yet
Conservative voice Michael Kan on why Republicans need to settle for Romney in one word: Obama

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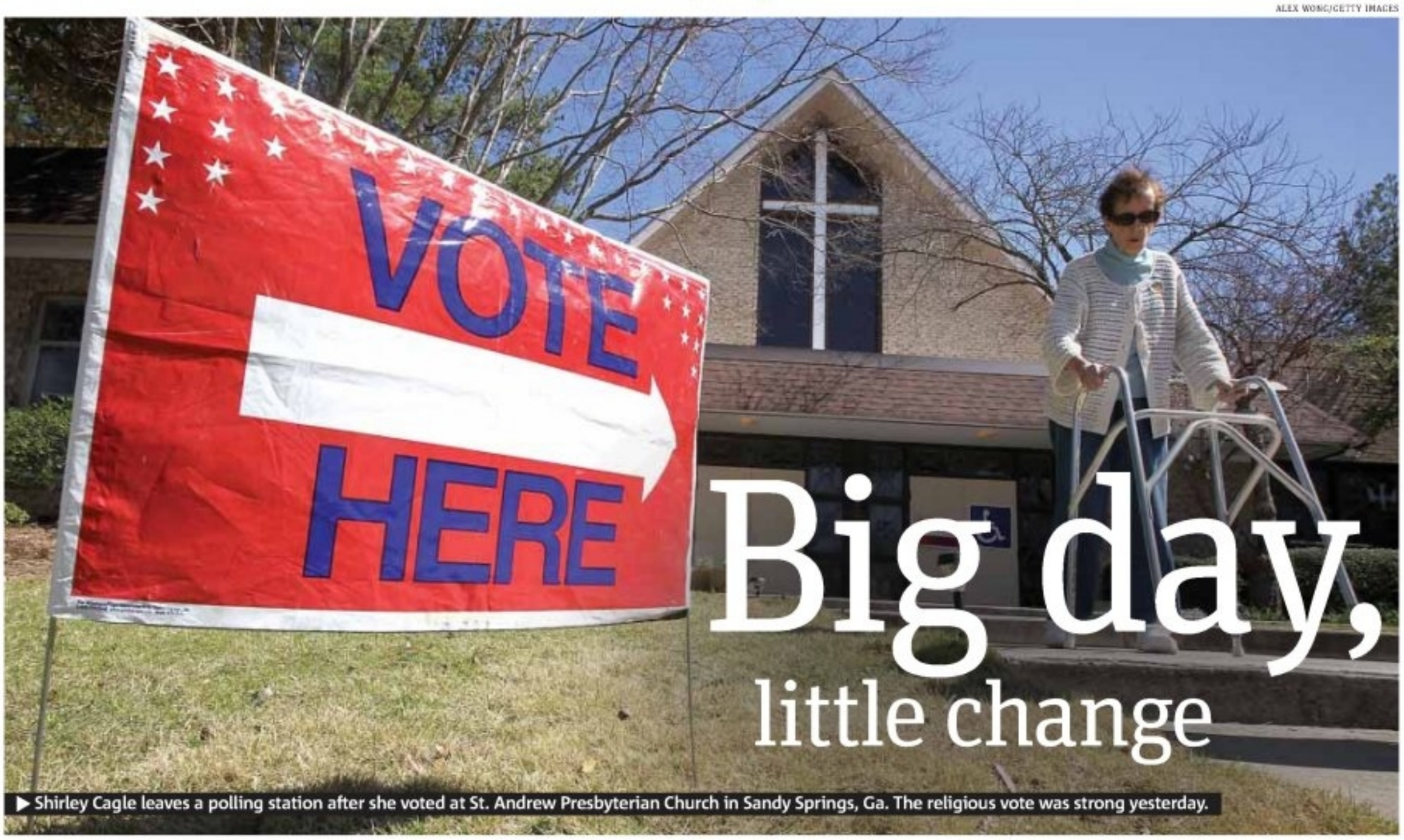


Big day, little change

▶ Shirley Cagle leaves a polling station after she voted at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Sandy Springs, Ga. The religious vote was strong yesterday.

The feed ...

▶ Political analysis in 140 characters or fewer.

@rickklein
Bold prediction: If Gingrich can find 20 other states where he served in Congress for 2 decades, he will be the nominee.

@joanwalsh
In GA, Mass, TN and Ohio, only 1 in 10 voters were younger than 30. ... Can you say "demographic extinction?"

@steveweinstein
So GOP always knew Mitt would be the nominee from the get go. They just wanted to make him unelectable first.

@pareene
Skittish Romney campaign blankets Midwest with anti-Peyton Manning ads

@bmcquillen
I have not considered any Tuesday to be Super since ABC cancelled Perfect Strangers

@BorowitzReport
New Romney Slogan: "Come On, Folks, It's Time to Settle"

Mitt Romney claimed a decidedly lukewarm victory in the nation's Super Tuesday contests yesterday, winning some states but ultimately failing to seal the deal with voters. The former Massachusetts governor — who was leading in estimated delegate counts going into the big 10-state competition — scored a few points, but upsets in Tennessee and Oklahoma, plus a nail-biter in Ohio, threaten to extend the campaign until the August convention.

Romney won the most obvious contests: in Massachusetts, where he served as a moderate governor, for example, and in Virginia, where only he and Ron Paul were on ballots due to the other candidates' organizational failures. But a closer-than-expected win in the Old Dominion and a too-close-to-call race with Rick Santorum in Ohio underscored the difficulty the Romney camp has had in definitively ending the damaging competition.

In Ohio, a key battleground state and one of the most closely watched contests yesterday, Romney picked up delegates but lost the intangible sense of his inevitability. The results were unclear as of press time, but a strong victory would have sent a message that conservatives were ready to board the battered bandwagon. What he got instead says that Republican voters remain unwilling to commit to the candidate seen by many as the most likely to best President Obama in November — but one who is also seen as the most moderate of the four GOP candidates.

51%

"A lot more Ohio Republicans say Romney is most electable (51%) than voted for Romney today. #exitpoll"

@ARIMELBER, ON TWITTER

None of which deterred Romney's characteristic enthusiasm, however. "This is a process of gathering enough delegates to become the nominee," he said blandly yesterday, "and I think we're on track to have that happen."

Voters, on the other hand, were not all quite as certain. "I'm not really thrilled with any of them, so I just figured I'd vote for Ron Paul," said Ohio voter Tim Kell, 50. "I just think with everything — with all the TV commercials and all the phone calls and everything ... I think it's crazy. Nobody seems to run on their own merit."

(Ad spending has been a major component of the 2012 race, with candidates and associated groups spending nearly $10 million on TV and radio ads for Super Tuesday alone.)

For his part, Newt Gingrich won his adopted state of Georgia, a widely predicted outcome but one that makes things more difficult for his fellow not-Romney candidate, Santorum. In this way, Romney gets a small win despite losing — the promise of continued vote-splitting among the two candidates billed as being more conservative benefits the current delegate leader.

Rep. Ron Paul claimed no victories.

The day's results hold significance, with nearly 20 percent of Republican convention delegates at stake. A candidate needs 1,144 delegates to win the nomination; some 419 were up for grabs yesterday.

BRAYDEN SIMMS
brayden.simms@metro.us

Get smitten for Mittens

Mr. Right

MICHAEL KAN
MICHAEL.KAN@LAW.CARDOZO.YU.EDU

"Maybe 'settling' isn't such a bad word?"

Mitt Romney is the one you've always had around, your Plan B, the one you fear to settle on; but not "the one." That is, unless the others break your heart, or maybe you've just run out of time.

For eight months, fickle GOP voters speed-dated six candidates. Trump, Bachmann, Perry, Cain, Gingrich, and now Santorum charmed and crashed faster than a Kim Kardashian marriage. For some strange reason, lunar colonies and banning contraception got no love from voters. And now, after Super Tuesday's results, the party seems settled on taking Mr. Romney to the ball, but with flip-flops rather than glass slippers.

Everyone wants to be smitten, no one likes to settle. But voters wisely showed yesterday that they are tired of the drama in the dating game. Few would dispute that this drawn-out primary process has at least temporarily hurt the Republican brand. No current GOP candidate garners a favorability rating above 40 percent in any recent poll, while President Obama's job approval stands at 48 percent in the Real Clear Politics average. Even if it means settling on an imperfect candidate in Gov. Romney, it is imperative that our attention now be focused squarely on Obama.

Republicans should begin crafting a narrative that concentrates on the president's economic failures. If the unemployment rate continues its downward trend, Romney will need more to win than just being America's job-creating CEO. For all his policy failings, Obama is still likeable, serenading us with Al Green while Romney was screeching "America the Beautiful."

Romney should turn off the karaoke mic and focus on two issues: the $15.5 trillion debt and inflation — at the gas pump and the grocery store, where Americans feel rising prices the most.

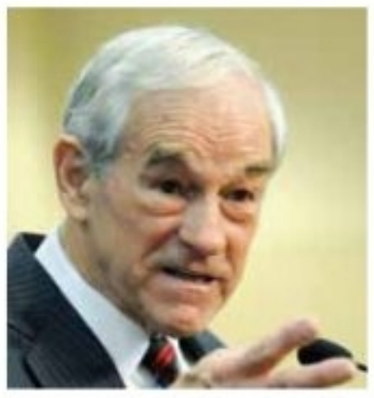
With his stiff personality, Romney will never win over the majority of Americans, but he can win on competence, having balanced budgets his entire career. Maybe "settling" isn't such a bad word?

*— **Michael Kan** is currently a second-year law student at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Contact him for comments, criticisms and Groupon deals.*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

*(AS REPORTED AT TIME OF PUBLICATION)

State by state results*

STATES	ROMNEY	SANTORUM	GINGRICH	PAUL
				
Georgia Georgia held a primary, with 76 delegates at stake. Gingrich, who represented the state for 20 years in Congress, pinned his campaign hopes to a win here.	26%	20%	**47%** (WITH 95 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	7%
Idaho Idaho held a caucus, with 32 delegates at stake. It has been estimated that Mormon voters made up about a third of caucusgoers, a boon for Romney.	**75%** (WITH 56 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	9%	3%	12%
Massachusetts Massachusetts held a primary, with 41 delegates at stake awarded on a proportional basis. Romney, a former state governor, was widely favored to win.	**72%** (WITH 96 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	12%	5%	10%
North Dakota North Dakota held a caucus yesterday, with 28 delegates at stake. Political analysts saw the state as the one most likely to be won by Ron Paul.	24%	**40%** (WITH 99 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	9%	27%
Ohio Ohio held a primary, with a 66 delegates at stake — awarded proportionally. Santorum is at a delegate disadvantage, having failed to qualify in some districts.	**38%**	37% (WITH 90 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	15%	9%
Oklahoma Oklahoma held a primary, with 43 proportionally allocated delegates at stake. A win of more than 50 percent would have given Santorum all of them.	28%	**34%** (WITH 95 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	27%	10%
Tennessee Tennessee held a primary, with 58 delegates at stake, to be awarded proportionally. Evangelicals were expected to hold sway in the Southern state.	28%	**37%** (WITH 91 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	24%	9%
Vermont Vermont held a primary, with 17 delegates at stake, to be awarded proportionally. The solidly Democratic state has historically supported moderate Republicans.	**40%** (WITH 72 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	23%	8%	25%
Virginia Only two candidates made the ballot for Virginia's primary, with 46 delegates. Since Romney took more than 50 percent of votes he will take most, if not all, of them.	**59%** (WITH 100 PERCENT OF PRECINCTS REPORTING)	N/A	N/A	41%

Social media drives effort to force Limbaugh off airwaves

Rush Limbaugh faced rising pressure from critics who are using new media to keep advertisers away from his long-running radio show.

At least 10 companies, including online publisher AOL Inc., have dropped the most-popular U.S. talk-radio show after Limbaugh called Georgetown University law student Sandra Fluke a "prostitute" and a "slut." Fluke appeared before Congress on Feb. 23 to speak in favor of President Barack Obama's policy requiring insurers to provide birth control to women.

Much of the pressure on advertisers has come from online activists using Twitter and Facebook to mobilize against Limbaugh. They see undermining the program's economic viability as the way to force distributor Clear Channel Communications Inc.'s Premiere Radio Networks to stop syndicating the show.

"The tactic of just asking advertisers has been a very successful one," said Krystal Ball, a 30-year-old MSNBC commentator who started a website called Boycottrush.org. "So as long as that is successful, we'll continue."

Ball, a Democrat, ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 2010. The campaign targeting Limbaugh is led by groups like Media Matters for America and the Ohio Democratic Party. **BLOOMBERG**

Netflix: Ignore our ads on Limbaugh

Anyone listening to Rush Limbaugh's radio broadcast on yesterday may have been surprised to hear an advertisement from Netflix.

But according to Netflix spokesman Steve Swasey, the company has no formal advertising relationship with Rush Limbaugh's show — and those ads that aired "were picked up in error." Netflix is making sure that its ads do not air again during Limbaugh's show. **MAINSTREET.COM**

Racial divide runs deep in US schools says study

Black and Latino students across the United States are far more likely to be suspended than white students — and far less likely to have access to rigorous college-prep courses, according to a sweeping study released yesterday by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights.

The trove of data, collected from 72,000 schools serving 85 percent of the nation's students, revealed tremendous disparities in the public school experiences of minority and white students.

Some of the most striking findings involved discipline: one in five African-American boys — and one in 10 African-American girls — was suspended from school during the study period in the 2009-10 school year. **REUTERS**

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Tila Tequila: Was it an aneurysm, overdose or suicide attempt?

Was **Tila Tequila**'s recent hospitalization due to a brain aneurysm, a drug overdose or a suicide attempt? Whatever the reason, the former reality star is all kinds of WTF.

Radar Online is saying that a brain aneurysm made her "think irrationally" and ingest "two bottles of unspecified heavy-prescription drugs."

"Tila threw up all over her bed after overdosing and felt like she was dying. She was screaming for help, and in desperation broke her bedroom window and attempted to jump out," a source says. "A friend came over after getting a strange text from her and found her convulsing on the bed. He called an ambulance."

Tequila was apparently treated at two different hospitals in a week's span, but she's not out of the woods yet. "She still can't fully speak properly," the source says. "It's sad to think she may have some permanent brain damage." But TMZ.com says all the drama was caused by a suicide attempt and that she'd been trying "kill herself all week" per a source.

We've said it once, we'll say it a million times: Mamas, don't let your daughters grow up to be reality TV stars.

▶ It's always the demure ones.

Iglesias won't put a ring on it

Enrique Iglesias has been happy with girlfriend **Anna Kournikova** for more than a decade — but don't expect him to put a ring on it.

"I've never really thought marriage would make a difference. I don't think you love someone more because of a piece of paper," he tells Parade. "It's not taboo to have kids and not be married. What makes a difference is that you're a good parent, period."

Note to Enrique: You might want to lock a fox like Anna Kournikova down, my friend.

Celeb spotting

▶ Prince Harry and Usain Bolt: Stayin' alive!

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Prince Harry says: Thataway!

Prince Harry poses with Olympian Usain Bolt at the Usain Bolt Track at the University of the West Indies on Tuesday in Kingston, Jamaica. Prince Harry is in Jamaica as part of a Diamond Jubilee Tour representing Queen Elizabeth II. He's taking in Belize, the Bahamas, Jamaica and Brazil.

Talking points

Fox on having little foxes

For **Megan Fox**, having kids with husband **Brian Austin Green** is less a question of if than when. "Of course. It will happen when it's meant to happen," she tells People magazine.

Beckham does wear Uggs ... sometimes

Victoria Beckham admits that she's not above slipping into a tracksuit and a pair of Uggs on occasion — but never in public. "You'll never see me on the street in a tracksuit. The same goes for Ugg boots. I only wear them at home," she tells Madame Figaro magazine.

A 'Growing Pains' reaction

Former "Growing Pains" star **Kirk Cameron** told CNN's Piers Morgan that being gay is "unnatural," "detrimental" and "ultimately destructive to so many of the foundations of civilization," and his remarks have earned him a lot of flack. Among those criticizing Cameron? His former co-stars. **Tracy Gold** tweeted, "I am a strong supporter of the LGBT Community, and I believe in equal rights for all," while **Alan Thicke**, who played Cameron and Gold's father on "Growing Pains," posted, "I'm getting him some new books. The Old Testament simply can't be expected to explain everything."

▶ Cameron

2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Neil Patrick Harris wishes it were all a joke, Olivia Wilde is surrounded by Hollywood history and both Diablo Cody and Seth MacFarlane are reconsidering classic tunes.

@ActuallyNPH
That Kirk Cameron is hilarious!

@oliviawilde
Pretty cool to be shooting on the same stage as The Big Sleep. And Space Jam.

@diablocody
Just listened to "Come Undone" by Duran Duran in the car. Sexiest thing I had ever heard in junior high.

@SethMacFarlane
I hear babies cry. I watch them grow. They'll learn much more than I'll ever know. And I think to myself: who brought babies to this bar?

Cody

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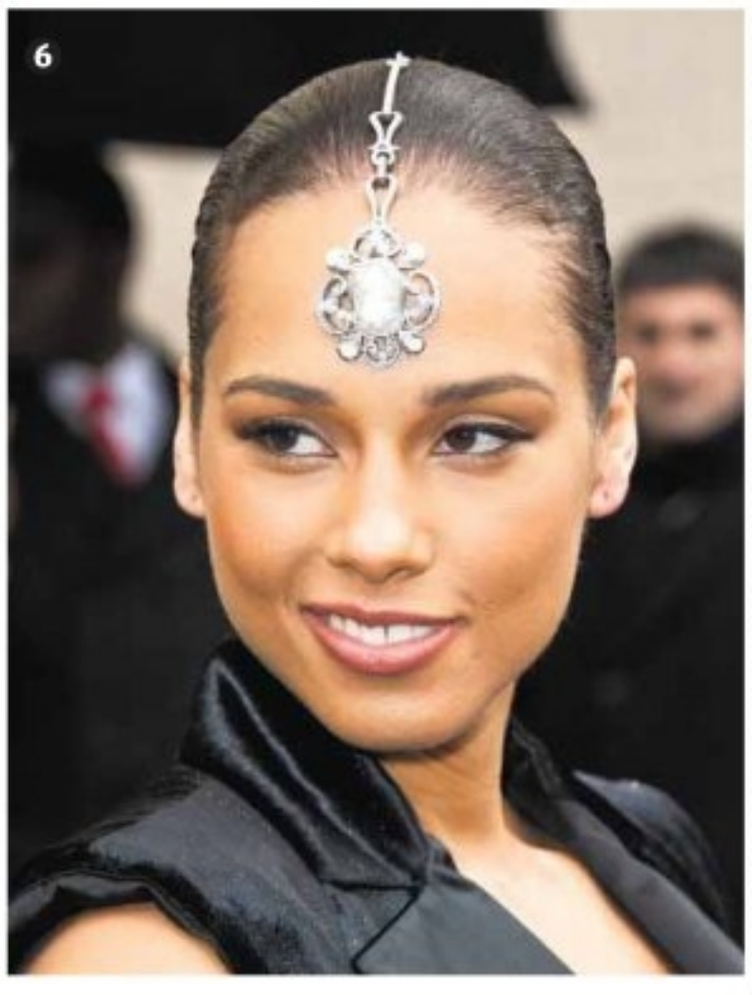

1. Kristen Wiig and Jon Hamm attended the after-party for their new film "Friends With Kids" at the The Top of The Standard on Monday in New York City.

2. Mena Suvari at the "American Pie: Reunion" photo call on Tuesday in Sydney, Australia.

3. Dizzee Rascal got into the ring for Coca-Cola's London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games ticket promotion at The Boxing Gym on Tuesday in London, England.

4. Elizabeth Berkley was spotted sporting her baby bump on Monday Los Angeles. Berkley announced her pregnancy yesterday, saying, "In life there are moments you cherish forever and this is one of them. We are so excited to share this moment and special news! The baby is due this summer."

5. Singer Demi Lovato left the "Today Show" taping at the on Tuesday in New York City.

6. Alicia Keys arrived at the Chanel Ready-To-Wear Fall/Winter 2012 show as part of Paris Fashion Week at Grand Palais on Tuesday in Paris, France.

7. Ice Cube visited BET's "106 & Park" at BET Studios on Monday in New York City.

8. Paul McCartney and wife Nancy Shevell attended the Stella McCartney Fall/Winter 2012 show as part of Paris Fashion Week on Monday.

1: LARRY BUSACCA/GETTY IMAGES
2: LISA MARIE WILLIAMS/GETTY IMAGES
3: IAN GAVAN/GETTY IMAGES FOR COCA-COLA
4: JEFF VESPA/WIREIMAGE
5: RAY TAMARRA/GETTY IMAGES
6: FRANCOIS DURAND/GETTY IMAGES
7: MICHAEL N. TODARO/GETTY IMAGES
8: PASCAL LE SEGRETAIN/GETTY IMAGES

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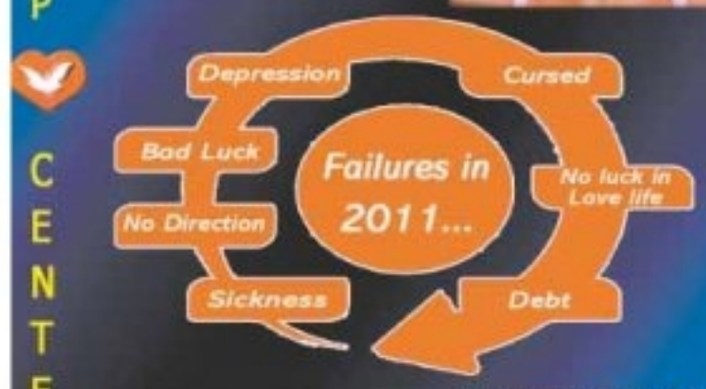

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Real-life drama, made-for-TV comedy

Fran Drescher, the star of TV Land's 'Happily Divorced,' uses her own life for inspiration — though some bits are just for the camera

In the penultimate episode of "Happily Divorced" last season, Fran Drescher's character sleeps with her ex-husband, who in the pilot episode came out of the closet. As the series is based on Drescher's own life, we had to ask: Was that rendezvous inspired by true events?

"No, once we divorced we never got drunk and had sex," she says of her ex, Peter Marc Jacobson, adding her trademark laugh.

Though their romantic relationship ended after 21 years of marriage, the two, who co-created "The Nanny," still maintain a bond and are now working together on the second season of "Happily Divorced," which premieres tonight. Drescher tells Metro that we'll see her character, also named Fran, finding herself "more and more as an independent single woman" and also get introduced to some secondary characters.

"We're gonna meet some of [the character] Peter's family," Drescher says. "Peter's got a brother, [which] was how I actually met my ex — I met the brother first, and we were supposed to go out and then he couldn't go, so he asked if Peter could take me on the date. And then Peter and I ended up falling in love. But now, all these years later, Peter comes out to his brother, and his brother's now divorced, and we're divorced, so he asks me out on a date [on the show]." Drescher says we'll also meet Fran's parents, as well as see more of her friend Judi: "she's got a lot more to do in this season."

And while the show is a comedy, deeper feelings are at the crux of it. "The shows themselves are coming out so good and so funny and so full of pathos and healing and laughter," Drescher says of the series' cathartic qualities. "We're very proud of this second season."

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Tonight's installment

"We're gonna open the show with a big, splashy reunion where Fran, Peter and Judi go to their UCLA drama department 10-year reunion," says Drescher. "Fran doesn't want to go because she feels like she's fat, old, poor and still living with her gay ex-husband — the combination just makes her feel like a loser. But in the end, she realizes that her life is better than most."

Quoted

"The shows themselves are coming out so good and so funny and so full of pathos and healing and laughter."
FRAN DRESCHER, ON SEASON 2

No canned laughs

Like "The Nanny," "Happily Divorced" is filmed in front of a live studio audience. Drescher wouldn't have it any other way.

"I think with a comedy, it's nice to hear the laughs. It helps bring the energy up," Drescher says. "You feel the energy of the audience and their laughter. And that really helps the show have a performance level that seems to work well and get the home viewers energized."

"Happily Divorced" premieres tonight at 10:30 on TV Land. To kick off the second season, last night Drescher officiated three gay weddings for the winners of her "Love is Love" contest.

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▶ “Mass Effect 3” packs in the franchise’s mix of planetary exploration, morality-based conversation and combat.

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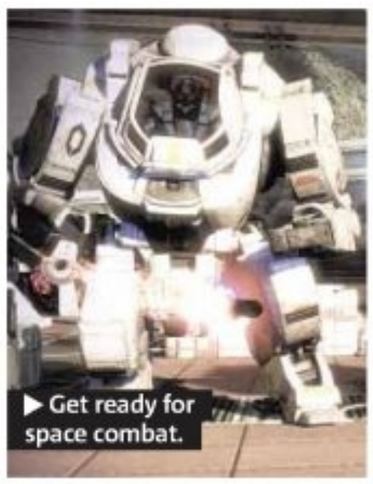
‘Mass Effect 3’
Console: PS3/360
Company: EA/Bioware
Grade: B+


▶ Get ready for space combat.

The humble space opera has faded from TV in recent years, leaving a “Battlestar”-sized hole in our collective hearts. Don’t fill that void with 3-D Jar Jar Binks. That’s just humiliating. Play video games instead. “Mass Effect” is back, offering up one last slice of intergalactic swashbuckling before it goes up to that Holodeck in the sky.

These games, for the newbie, offer up an engrossing serial narrative dealing with humanity’s place in a federation of planets. There’s action, plenty of talking and decisions that have actual consequences. If characters died back in the first entry, assuming you played it, they’re still dead in the third. Cool, right? Still, this installment takes great pains to catch new players up on the story.

“Mass Effect 3” is a sequel in more of a cinematic sense. The gameplay is fairly indiscernible from “Mass Effect 2,” except for some simple Kinect functionality on the Xbox version. If you liked the franchise’s mix of planetary exploration, morality-based conversation and third-person combat before, you’ll probably like it again. The story, however, is all new and manages to end the trilogy with earth-shattering aplomb.

Of course, this is 2012 and online multiplayer must be shoehorned into every video game no matter what. It’s not bad, if you play these games primarily for the combat. You can even parlay online success into more allies and weapons in the single player campaign. Beware buying used, though. It comes with one of those “online passes” that must be registered for 10 bucks if you want to play online. In space, nobody can hear you grab for cash.

Creepy online pass or not, this is one heck of a close-out for the series. The main story takes at least 50 hours to complete and every narrative thread you’ve been wondering about gets unraveled in ways that are often surprising. Play it and then wait patiently for a new “Star Trek” series. It should only be another decade or so.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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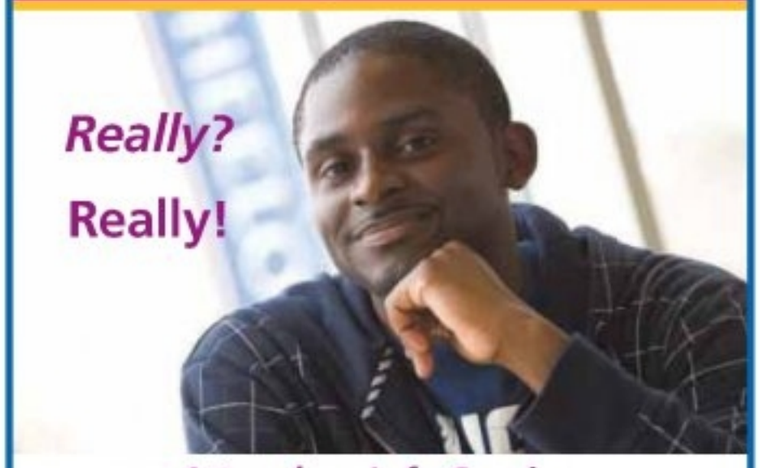

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Walnuts

The warm, toasted nuts airlines often serve to their first class customers may be doing more to help pampered passengers relax during flight than the cushy seats and fluffy pillows. Researchers at Penn State University found that regularly snacking on walnuts may help your body respond better to stress. Study participants who added a small daily dose of walnuts and walnut oil to their diet experienced a smaller rise in blood pressure during stressful events like giving an impromptu speech. Scientists speculate that the heart-healthy omega-3 fats may be responsible for the nuts' calming benefits. Walnuts are great straight out of the package, but toasting them enhances the flavor and brings them to a whole new level. Simply arrange on a baking sheet and bake for 8 to 10 minutes in a 350 degree oven.

Chickpeas

Ward off a bad mood with nutty, crunchy chickpeas. A one-cup serving provides more than 70 percent of the daily recommended intake for folate, a B vitamin that helps regulate mood. Low blood levels of folate have been linked to higher risk for depressive symptoms, so increasing your intake of folate-rich fare like chickpeas can't hurt. Add this feel-good food to salads or puree chickpeas with olive oil, garlic and lemon juice to make homemade hummus.

Grapefruit

Swapping your apple or banana for a juicy grapefruit may help you chill out. This citrus fruit is a top source of vitamin C, a nutrient that may help people better cope with bad nerves. Soothe away worries naturally by eating more vitamin C-rich produce. For a relaxing way to ease into your day, try fresh grapefruit with a scoop of low-fat cottage cheese.

Chamomile tea

Wipe away the day's worries with a mug of naturally caffeine-free chamomile tea. This calming brew appears to act as a mild sedative and may help relieve muscle tension — and ease anxiety and irritability. Take advantage of this tried-and-true herbal remedy by making chamomile tea part of your evening ritual.

*— For more tips on healthy eating, follow **Joy Bauer** on Facebook and Twitter (@joybauer) and visit **www.joybauer.com**.*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

PHOTODISC

▶ The right kind of chocolate can be good for you.

Dark chocolate

Could chocolate's mood-boosting effects be driven by more than just the luxurious taste and creamy melt-in-your-mouth texture? Some scientists think so. One study found that consuming a small daily dose of dark chocolate reduced stress hormones in individuals with high anxiety levels. To take full advantage of chocolate's health perks, choose dark varieties that are at least 70 percent cocoa. And of course, try to keep portions in check since chocolate (even dark) is high in calories. One ounce daily (about 150 calories worth) is just the right amount to reap the tension-taming benefits without going overboard.

COUGH
COLD
MUCUS

COLD SEASON IS HERE AGAIN!

And who has time to be sick these days?

Local doctors are conducting a clinical research study on the effects of an FDA approved medication in reducing cold symptoms. If you (or a family member) are 12 years old or older and have recently developed moderate to severe symtoms of at least 2 of the following: cough, thickened mucus or chest congestion, you may qualify for this study.

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Letters

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We need protection from the right wing

Ohio's Republican Gov. John Kasich eventually agreed to accept federal disaster help for storm-battered citizens. What took so long, you ask? He was trying to score political points while people suffer, trying to salvage what's left of their lives. At the same time, Pat Robertson said the tornado victims themselves were to blame for not praying enough! We need some federal disaster relief to fight Republicans and religion!

ROBERT LA ROSA, VIA E-MAIL

When gas prices and politics intersect

The real problem in this country is not even the high gas prices themselves (they're still lower than elsewhere in the world), but the very fact that too many people have no choice but to depend on driving and thus to be affected by those prices directly. For many decades, the government has been generously subsidizing the automobile and underfunding transit. The healthiest solution for gas prices is to reinvest in public transit.

AARON BERK, VIA E-MAIL

Sarah Palin's solution to the energy crisis was "Drill, baby, drill!" John McCain's solution to every diplomatic crisis seems to be "Bomb, baby, bomb!" I am so happy that we elected Obama!

GREGORY B. HOLMAN, VIA E-MAIL

Teachers attacking the nation's future

Teachers are failing our children! This has got to stop! I am so sick and tired of hearing about another teacher that has taken advantage of another child. We send our kids to school to learn, not to be molested or raped! How are the so-called children of the future supposed to be our future when they don't go to school to get an education but instead get taken out of class to be touched in a closet?

ASHLEY ALLARD, VIA E-MAIL

Letters leave much to be desired?

I read the Metro every day during my commute, and I am struck by how poor the letters are. I would be interested to know what process is used to vet them. Is the goal to publish the most ignorant letter each day? Or perhaps the most inflammatory one? While you may not be able to pay your contributors enough to ensure quality, surely the Metro receives five letters each day worthy of publishing. If not, you could fill the extra space with another Sudoku.

PAUL STARK, VIA E-MAIL

Support of Israel pays dividends

RE: "ISRAEL ASKS MUCH, TAKES EVEN MORE": To the Israel bashers: First, we get more in return for our aid than you think. Israel has fought and captured Russian weapons and sent them to us, helping put an end to the Cold War. Israeli intelligence is ours as well, and we will never know what attacks it has stopped cold. Preemptive strikes? We have done it ourselves — in Yemen, in Iraq (even if that was a mistake) and in Afghanistan. You can see what kind of enemies Israel has every day; look at what the Syrian regime does to its own people. So back off.

PAUL SIMONS, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** It's to your benefit to be decisive and assertive pertaining to a critical matter. Don't be afraid to make a bold judgment call if you believe it would work.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Some kind of opportunity of considerable dimensions could develop for you. It has something to do with your finances and might be able to enhance your security.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** If there are many players involved but they lack your managerial skills, assume a leadership role and take the reins whether or not you're asked to do so. The others will appreciate it.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you're in need of some assistance concerning a confidential matter, go to someone close whom you respect, such as a good friend or a family member. They'll do the most to help.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** As conditions start to change for the better, fresh hope will instill itself in your heart. A beloved friend might be instrumental in bringing this about.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Due to the fact that Lady Luck wants to divert your attention onto something that would be beneficial, it isn't likely that you'll be able to dismiss commercial matters from your agenda.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Don't waste your time and energies on pursuits of little or no opportunity. Go ahead and think in grandiose terms — just don't be afraid to put the things you conceive into action.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If you have something of importance to do, you'll find that you will work far better if you don't have anyone peering over your shoulders. Seek solitude, not a cheering section.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Dame Fortune is likely to look favorably on partnership arrangements, so don't impatiently go off on your own simply because you are tired of waiting for others.

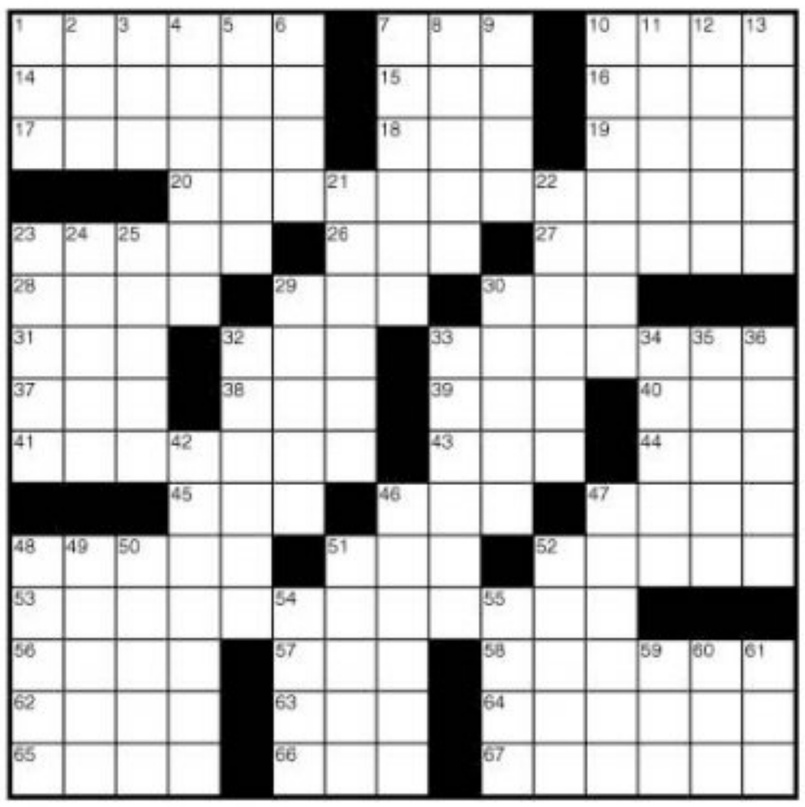
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Coworkers might lack your industriousness, so don't allow them to distract you from gratifying your ambitions and fulfilling what you want to accomplish.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Just because they like you, certain people are apt to treat you in a far more generous fashion than they do others. Show your gratitude openly.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** This might be an especially good time to devote both your mental and physical energies to a huge critical matter that you've been afraid to tackle. Desirable results are indicated. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across
1 Weak, as an excuse
7 Dirty place
10 Thin coating
14 Parka
15 Before, in combos
16 Great Lakes state
17 Lodge
18 Drumstick
19 Trotsky's first name
20 Petunia, for one (2 wds.)
23 Pinnacles
26 Sturm __ Drang
27 Pommel __
28 Fixed the table
29 HBO alternative
30 Gullet
31 Drill attachment
32 Koppel or Knight
33 Holiday quaff
37 Suffix for forfeit
38 Laugh syllable
39 Did lunch
40 Santa __ winds
41 Glacial deposit
43 Qt. fractions
44 Toon pooch
45 Give it a go
46 Embroider, maybe
47 Branch off
48 Aussie minerals
51 Feedbag morsel
52 Daddy's sis
53 Oenophile gatherings
56 He directed Marlon
57 Floe or berg
58 Bright songster
62 __ de plume
63 Rather or Duryea
64 Hot dog seller
65 Ballpark figure
66 Painter's work
67 Sea off Greece

Down
1 Distant
2 Compass pt.
3 Daughter of Hyperion
4 Paid off
5 Takes on cargo
6 Made do with
7 First-aid device
8 Gallup finding
9 Peterman
10 Tails, maybe
11 "Do __ __ a Waltz?"
12 Veld stalkers
13 Con game
21 "Crocodile __"
22 Full moon and half moon
23 Photo book
24 View from Giza
25 Carpentry joint
29 Smaller than small
30 Not shiny
32 Parched feeling
33 Elk
34 Composer __ Copland
35 Dormant
36 Tall and thin
42 Minimally(2 wds.)
46 Potential
47 Welding
48 Track standout Jesse __
49 Whale type
50 Jung's inner self
51 Famed statuette
52 Concur
54 Verdi opus
55 PBS series
59 Keats opus
60 Mauna __
61 Ocean-going bird



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		6	2		4			
			1	6	8			
			3		5	1		
5		8						
3		7		8		9		2
4	9				3	8		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

		2	4				3	
					8	6		
	6				9			7
2		7	6				4	
	5	4	7	9	2	1	6	
	1				3	7		2
4			2				1	
		6	9					
	2				6	8		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: **WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES**

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3

The Saints vs. Spygate

Bounty system likely regarded as on par with Pats' old camera issues
Roger Goodell ready to weigh in

The Saints were certainly a likable bunch before the news broke last weekend that coaches and players were involved in a "bounty system," which reportedly rewarded players with thousands in cash in exchange for inflicting injuries on the players of the opposing team.

New Orleans is currently being hammered in the press and around the NFL for implementing this system that "everybody else does."

If that phrase sounds familiar, it should.

"Everybody else" was using cameras to videotape opposing teams' hand signals prior to 2007, Patriots fans alleged.

The difference here is that prior to September 2007, the Pats weren't really a likable bunch across the country. Bill Belichick was far from media-friendly. The team often won in a style that defied traditional NFL logic. And there were enough incidents over the years, notably the on-field postgame celebration following the 2006 divisional round game in San Diego, that drove opposing fan bases and self-righteous media members up the wall.

The news of the Patriots indiscretion also broke in Week 1 of the NFL season. The Saints issues popped up in early March, one of the most dormant periods on the NFL calendar.

Obviously, the Saints problems will still be brought to light throughout the summer. Absent will be the endless fervor we saw from fans week in and week out in 2007.

That is the biggest difference between the two stories.

As for which indiscretion was worse?

Commissioner Goodell is about to let us know.

MATT BURKE
matthew.burke@metro.us

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Saints have had a bounty on quarterbacks like Tom Brady for three years.

In the news

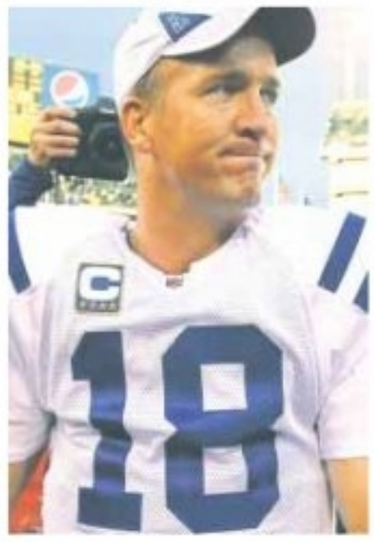
Sorry, Pap
Ken Casey of Dropkick Murphy's is traveling to Clearwater, Fla., to break the news to new Phillies closer Jonathan Papelbon the he can't use "Shipping Up To Boston" as his entrance song, ESPN reported. "That's a Boston song, Casey said. "That's (the Red Sox) closer's song."

Ain't no Saints

The NFL is expected to come down hard on Saints staff from 2009-11:

- **Greg Williams** Now the Rams' defensive coordinator, Williams ran the bounty system and could see a year suspension.
- **Sean Payton** The Saints head coach took "full responsibility" for the bounty program.
- **Mickey Loomis** The GM said the violation happened "under our watch."

Peyton announcement today



The once unthinkable will likely go down today.

Peyton Manning is expected to no longer be a member of the Indianapolis Colts by the end of today as ESPN reported that the team will not pick up the four remaining years on his contract.

Manning will become a free agent and sources said that one of the most prolific quarterbacks of all-time expects to continue to play.

ESPN said that the announcement will take place at a news conference in Indianapolis today with both Manning and owner Jim Irsay in attendance.

The Colts are likely to draft Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck or Baylor signal-caller Robert Griffin III with the No. 1 overall pick in April's NFL draft.

Manning owns all of Indianapolis' career records for quarterbacks and won a Super Bowl with the Colts in 2006.

Washington, Miami, the Jets and Kansas City have been mentioned as possible suitors for Manning's services. He can sign with a team as soon as he is released. METRO/MB

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C's in for fight in Philly

Sixers have struggled as of late but still own Atlantic Division lead
Could come down to battle of the benches Rickety C's need fresh legs

That nice cushion the 76ers had in the Atlantic Division a few weeks ago is gone.

Philadelphia has gone 2-8 in its last 10 games, most recently losing to the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday. Now the Celtics are in Philly tonight (7 p.m., CSNNE) for a game that has serious division title repercussions, as the C's are right on the 76ers heels. If they can somehow overtake Philly and hold on to the division crown, they'll land the No. 4 seed.

The teams haven't played one another yet this season — which is a good thing for the C's. The 76ers jumped out of the gates and surprised the rest of the NBA, while the C's fell flat. But the two teams took 180-degree turns recently, with the Celtics winning four straight going into last night's game against Houston.

So what should you expect in this one?

LOW SCORING: The 76ers have only allowed 100 points or more twice since Jan. 21 (six total), and the Celtics have only allowed 100-plus four times all season. Both teams are allowing an average of under 90 points per game, too, with the 76ers leading the NBA (87.5 point allowed).

BENCH IS KEY: The 76ers bench is one of the best in the NBA. Lou Williams, Thaddeus Young, and Evan Turner ("The Night Team") are three young players who could start on many NBA teams. Williams actually leads the 76ers in scoring (15.7 ppg). The C's bench of Mickael Pietrus, Avery Bradley and Chris Wilcox will have to match that intensity.

A BIG ONE: The Celtics are coming off a game against the Rockets last night, and they're going up against a talented 76ers team with no day off. It will prove quite the challenge for the veteran bunch. The Celtics know how important this division game is, but so does a Sixers team tired of the C's picking on them.

JIMMY TOSCANO
sports@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Paul Pierce will square off against Andre Iguodala tonight.

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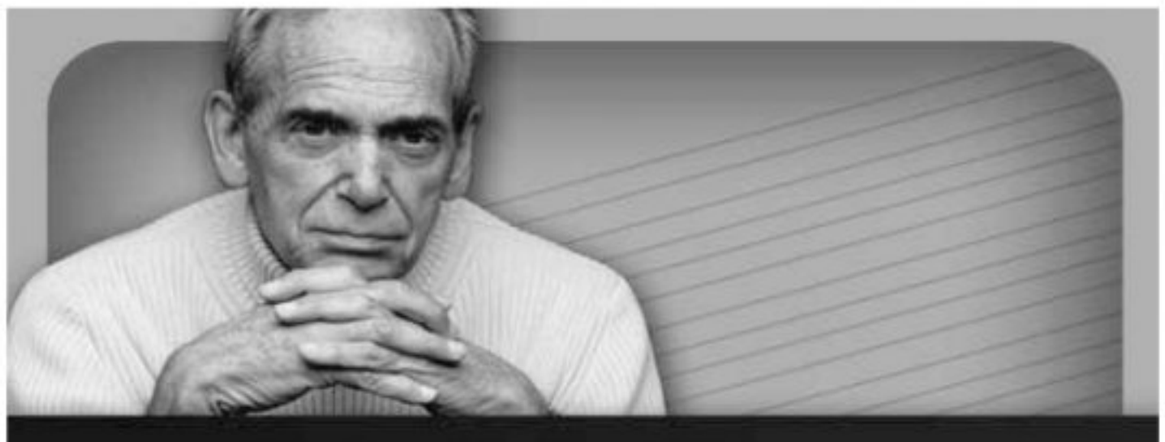

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at home with metro

New condos are going fast in Jamaica Plain

Bartlett Square is the place to be — with shops, a brewery and transportation all nearby Act fast though, a lot of other people seem to realize these bonuses as well

The new Bartlett Square condominiums in Jamaica Plain boast green building construction and a style that mixes traditional details with modern amenities.

The 13 new condominiums and three retail spaces will be ready for occupancy later this month. Seven units are already reserved, according to Janet Deegan, a broker with Cervone Deegan & Associates, the Coldwell Banker sales team marketing the project.

The condos will further add to Jamaica Plain's Brewery District, which is minutes from Franklin Park, the Jamaica Pond and downtown Jamaica Plain. The Brewery District includes shops, restaurants and of course, the Sam Adams Brewery — in addition to many residences that particularly attract local artists.

"We really call this the heart of Jamaica Plain," says Deegan. "You are across the street from the MBTA Orange Line and the Southwest Corridor Park, which has a bike path into the city."

In addition to the prime location and views of Downtown Boston, the building was constructed with "consciousness," according to Deegan. There are solar panels on the roof that heat 40 percent of the common areas, energy efficient appliances and a vegetative green roof for added insulation and absorbing water run-off.

So far, the retail spaces have not been leased, but one is slated for a cafe or restaurant and includes outdoor space.

The units range from one- to three-bedroom, and range in price from $330,000 to $660,000.

The higher-priced units have outdoor decks and two bathrooms.

Amenities

- Custom kitchen cabinets
- Marble and granite countertops
- Limestone and marble bathrooms
- Elevator in the building

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

▶ The Bartlett Square condominiums are located in Jamaica Plain in the Brewery District.

▶ This is a view of the condo interior.

CHRISTINA WALLACE
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In the home

The healing power of plants

We've got some unfortunate news for those of you staring at a ceaseless urban sprawl of concrete, steel and glass: "We experience less stress when plants are around us, and research shows that our mental functioning is much better," says Virginia Lohr, professor of horticulture and landscape architecture at Washington State University.

Although modern cities make day-to-day living more convenient, it's not in keeping with our basic human needs. "We evolved with plants, and we have a preprogrammed, innate response to them because of their survival value — the same is true of the sun, clouds and oceans," explains Lohr. So while we strip away swaths of green land in the name of progress, we might not only be harming the environment but also our own wellbeing.

It's a harmful effect that's carried into the home and workplace with city dwellers spending more time than ever working under florescent lights, in air conditioning. "Interiors, especially in the winter when the heating is on, cause colds, sore throats, headaches and the spread of airborne viruses," argues Lohr. Any plant can have a so-called effect on our mood; however, species such as "the peace lily or Chinese evergreen grow well under low light, which can help reduce dust and air pollutants, as suggested by research," she continues.

PHOTODISC

▶ Peace lily

"The more plants you can have around you the better. They help humanize the environment, make us calmer and reduce violence." LOHR

The other great menace to health in modern environments is air humidity. "Any plant that needs to be watered more will put a greater level of water in the air. For example, a fern is going to do better than a cactus for humidifying the air," says Lohr. It's certainly something to consider if you're falling ill to coughs and colds. At the most basic level the expert says, "The more plants you can have around you, the better. They help humanize the environment, make us calmer and reduce violence." That's not a bad thing in our increasingly chaotic, 24/7 cities. RP

5 Rugs to roll out

Boasting funky, colorful prints and chic weaves, these fashionable floor spreads are sure to spruce up your home

The rugs

1. **Urban Outfitters Ikat rug, $59,** www.urbanoutfitters.com
2. **Jonathan Adler Mondrian rug, $695,** www.jonathanadler.com
3. **Ikea Tarnby rug, $100,** www.ikea.com
4. **CB2 color field rug, $399,** www.cb2.com
5. **Anthropologie Huari rug, $398-$1,998,** www.anthropologie.com

RICHARD PECKETT
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

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The Boston Home Center

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Source: Bankrate.com, for more information visit www.bankrate.com. Bankrate national averages are based on 100 largest institutions in the top 10 markets in the United States.

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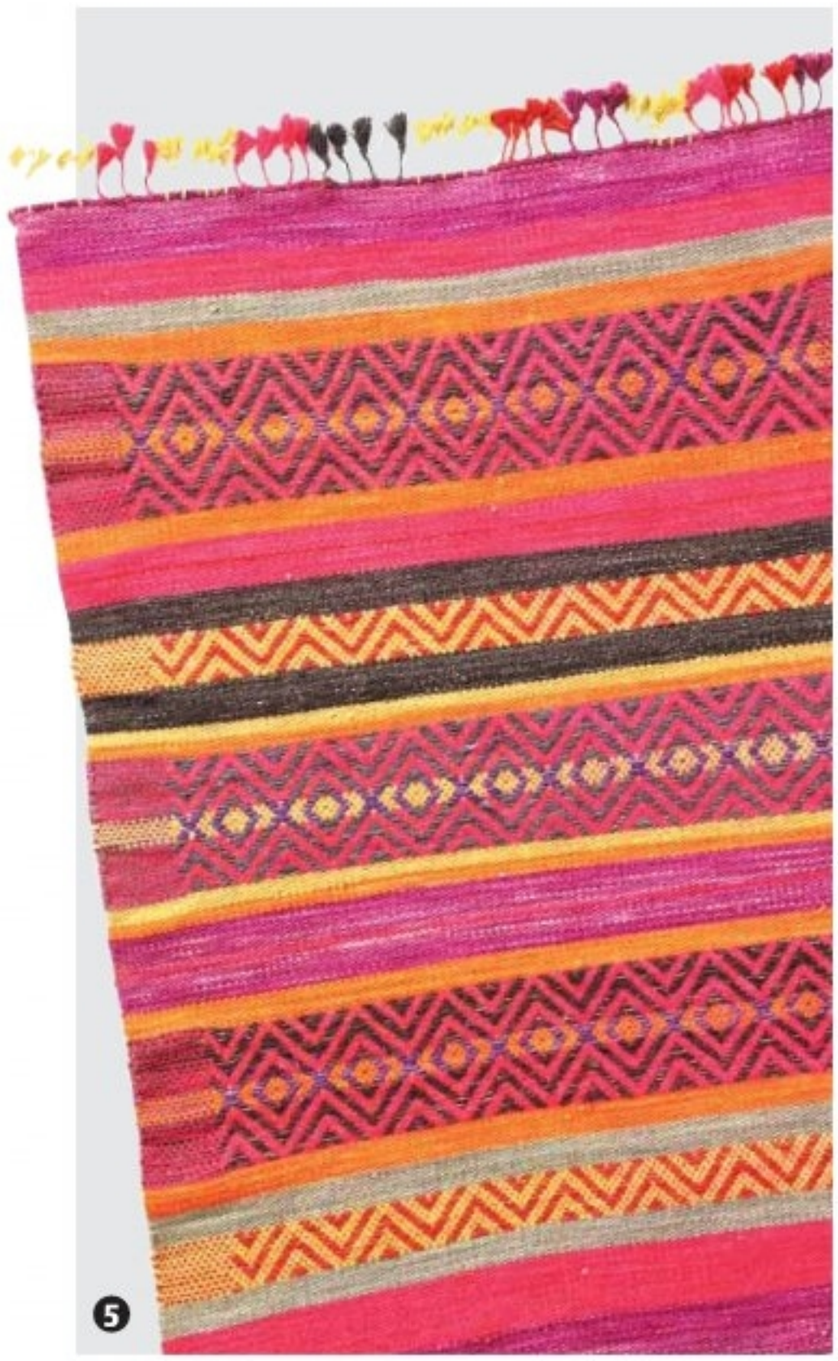
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Unraveling the terminology

- **Warp:** The vertical running of yarn in any woven rug or carpet, interlacing with weft yarns
- **Weft:** The horizontal running of yarn in any woven rug or carpet, interlacing with warp yarns
- **Knot count:** This is simply the number of knots per square inch.

NEW BARTLETT SQUARE DEVELOPMENT IN JAMAICA PLAIN

bartlettsq. CONDOS

Experience the urban chic at Bartlett Square, Jamaica Plain's newest hip, "green" condominiums.The public was invited to the Grand Opening this past Sunday at 156 Green Street after finishing touches were made to the model unit and nearly 400 people turned out to take a look at the thirteen, 1-3 bedroom units with elevator and garage, most with views of downtown Boston or Sumner Hill. Brand new from the ground up, the landmark building is set along the Southwest Corridor Park conveniently located within steps of the Green Street stop on the Orange Line MBTA and just four miles from downtown Boston.

The residential units range is size from 750 square feet to 1,600 square feet, situated above three retail spaces. The sleek interiors feature deluxe kitchens with stainless steel appliances, stylish bathrooms with custom cabinetry and limestone floors, hardwood floors, and in-unit laundry. Built with an eye toward sustainable living, Bartlett Square includes eco-friendly features such as photovoltaic solar panels, high-efficiency heating and cooling systems, Energy Star appliances, heat recovery ventilators and water-saving bathroom fixtures. Maple Hurst Builders, noted for their impeccable design, superior craftsmanship and attention to detail is offering finishes in exotic woods and unusual stone sure to wow even the most discriminating buyer. Parking is available in an underground heated garage and prices for the condominiums range from $330,000 to $660,000. Though several pre-sales have been made, there is still plenty to choose from in all price categories.

"Bartlett Square represents comfortable urban living at its best. Buyers will revel in the features and finishes of Bartlett Square, an ideal addition to an area that is the gateway to a flourishing arts district," said Janet Deegan of Cervone Deegan & Associates, an award-winning sales team in the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Jamaica Plain. "Once mostly a collection of industrial and commercial buildings, the neighborhood surrounding Bartlett Square has been live/work space for sculptors, painters and other artists for decades. With the arrival of the Orange Line, the Brewery and other shops, businesses and restaurants came new life, new developments such as the popular City Green and city dwellers who reveled in the thriving neighborhood. Bartlett Square is the latest and the most innovative housing development to come to Bartlett Square and is already creating the next wave of seismic changes."

Developed by Maple Hurst Builders, Bartlett Square is marketed and sold exclusively by Cervone Deegan & Associates of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Jamaica Plain office. For more information about Bartlett Square, contact Janet Deegan at 617.895.6366 or janet.deegan@nemoves.com. For more information, visit us on ourwebsite: www.bartlettsqcondos.com or our Facebook page: Bartlett Square Condominiums.

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REAL ESTATE ON THE GO!

MOM STRIKES BACK!

By Attorney George Warshaw

Last week I wrote about the loving son who filed to evict his 98 year old mother from the home she previously deeded to him. The son gave up!

How can a parent protect one's home while deeding it, with good intentions, to a child to manage or oversee?

The first caution I must mention is that planning to accomplish one thing for older parents often makes a mess of something else.

For example, you may wish to transfer the deed of a property into a trust for ease of inheritance; the transfer, however, may create an unintended Medicaid planning problem.

To safeguard a parent's home, one should think twice (or three or four times) before deeding it to one's children. The loss of control for the elderly Mrs. K almost cost her dearly.

There are several safeguarding techniques I like to use.

A parent can grant the home to a child or relative and reserve a "life estate"; i.e. a right to live in and use the house for one's life; or place the property into a trust.

If using a trust, it is often valuable to require the consent of a trusted advisor (lawyer, financial planner, etc.) before a trustee can sell or mortgage the house.

More on this Next Week. © 2012 George Warshaw.

GWA

George Warshaw is a real estate and estate planning attorney in Massachusetts. He represents buyers and sellers of homes and condos in Massachusetts, and prepares wills, trusts for individuals and families. George welcomes new clients and questions at metro@warshawlaw.com.

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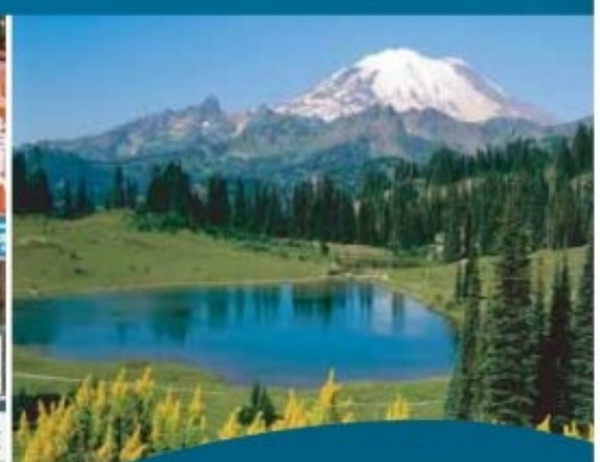

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